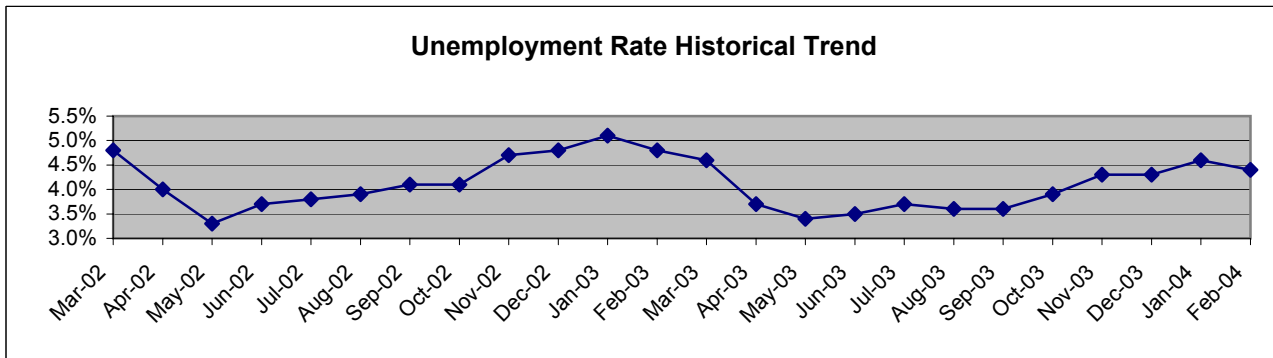


IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SANTA BARBARA-SANTA MARIA-LOMPOC METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)
 (Santa Barbara County)

The unemployment rate in Santa Barbara County was 4.4 percent in February 2004, down from a revised 4.6 percent in January 2004, and below the year-ago estimate of 4.8 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 6.5 percent for California and 6.0 percent for the nation during the same period.



| Industry | Month to month changes | | | Year to year changes | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|--------|----------------------|----------|--------|
| | Jan 2004 | Feb 2004 | Change | Feb 2003 | Feb 2004 | Change |
| Total Jobs | 178,800 | 180,600 | 1,800 | 175,900 | 180,600 | 4,700 |
| Farm Jobs | 14,000 | 14,100 | 100 | 11,900 | 14,100 | 2,200 |
| Nonfarm Jobs | 164,800 | 166,500 | 1,700 | 164,000 | 166,500 | 2,500 |
| Natural Resources and Mining | 800 | 800 | 0 | 800 | 800 | 0 |
| Construction | 8,600 | 8,500 | (100) | 7,700 | 8,500 | 800 |
| Manufacturing | 13,900 | 13,900 | 0 | 13,400 | 13,900 | 500 |
| Trade, Transportation and Utilities | 27,000 | 26,900 | (100) | 26,800 | 26,900 | 100 |
| Information | 4,100 | 4,100 | 0 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 0 |
| Financial Activities | 8,400 | 8,400 | 0 | 8,300 | 8,400 | 100 |
| Professional and Business Services | 20,600 | 20,900 | 300 | 20,700 | 20,900 | 200 |
| Educational and Health Services | 19,400 | 19,700 | 300 | 19,300 | 19,700 | 400 |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 21,000 | 21,100 | 100 | 20,700 | 21,100 | 400 |
| Other Services | 5,600 | 5,700 | 100 | 5,900 | 5,700 | (200) |
| Government | 35,400 | 36,500 | 1,100 | 36,300 | 36,500 | 200 |

Notes - Data not adjusted for seasonality

- Data may not add due to rounding

Additional data are available on-line at <http://www.calmis.ca.gov>